



## Ellen Maxine Kennedy

December 14, 1940 - November 9, 2025

Ellen Maxine (McNeill) Kennedy, age 84, passed away peacefully on November 9, 2025 in Ardmore, Oklahoma. She was born on December 14, 1940, in Elmore City, Oklahoma, to John Alexander and Viva Leola (Pyle) McNeill.

Ellen grew up in Elmore City, where she developed a lifelong love of riding horses, picking blackberries, and playing basketball. A proud graduate of Elmore City High School, Class of 1958, she went on to attend cosmetology school in Lindsay, traveling by bus each day to pursue her dream.

After completing her training, Ellen married the love of her life, Charles LeRay Kennedy, on August 29, 1959. Together they shared 64 wonderful years before LeRay's passing on July 15, 2024. Their marriage was a true testament to love, devotion, and partnership.

Ellen worked as a hairdresser for 55 years, dedicating her career to helping others look and feel their best. She was deeply loved by her clients and community, not only for her skill but for her kindness and caring spirit, and she loved them in return as well.

A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Ellen and LeRay raised four children and were blessed with 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Her greatest joy was her family, and she was always there for them at a moment's notice.

Ellen was a member of Satterwhite Missionary Baptist Church and enjoyed fellowship with her church family. She was also active in the Pauls Valley

bowling league, where she shared laughter and friendship over the years. She was a talented seamstress and baker and was known for her famous lemon bundt cake that was a crowd favorite at local FFA dessert auctions. You could also find her making special birthday and wedding cakes for countless family members and friends — including wedding cakes for her children, Terry and Clyda. She loved monogramming towels and creating personalized gifts for weddings, graduations, and other celebrations.

Ellen had a servant's heart — always giving, always thinking of others first. She lived her life guided by the values of hard work, kindness, and teaching those around her to do your best at everything you do. She often reminded her family, "If you're as pretty on the inside as you are on the outside, you'll be just fine." Ellen's legacy of love, generosity, and faith will continue to live on through the family and friends she so deeply cherished.

Ellen is survived by her Son, David Kennedy and wife Kim of Elmore City, OK and his family Charlie and Crystal Kennedy and their children David, Charlie, and Austin of Elmore City, OK and Katie Kennedy of Rush Springs, OK; Son: Terry Kennedy of Elmore City, OK and his family Hope and Brett York and daughter Brailey and husband Canaan Miller of Ada, OK; Hoak and Tayl'r Kluver and their children Jett, Cooper, and Gus of Pocasset, OK; Dally and Lane Hopper and their children Kenleigh and Sage of Elmore City, OK; and Thomas Kennedy of Elmore City, OK; Daughter, Cendy Combes and husband Steven of Elmore City, OK and her family Sarah and husband Jason Quigley of Destrehan, LA and Seth and Harlee Combes of Enid, OK; Daughter, Clyda Ware and husband Alan of Pauls Valley, OK and their family, Derby and Malia Whitefield of Stillwater, OK, Kennedy and Zach Perry of Houston, TX, Daniel and Darcie Ware and Bennett of Norman, OK, and Rachel and Callie Ware and Sosie of Oklahoma City, OK; Brother, Wayne McNeill and wife Carolyn of Pauls Valley, OK; Sister-in-law, Dona Kennedy of Elmore City, OK.; and a host of other friends and family members.

Ellen was preceded in death by her husband, Charles LeRay Kennedy; Parents, John Alexander and Viva Leola (Pyle) McNeill; Daughter-in-law, Coie

Sue Kennedy; Great- Granddaughter, Brettley Nicole York; Sisters, Wanda Clark, Ida Ruth Horn, Ruby Walker; and Brother, J.T. "Tubby" McNeill.

Services for Ellen will be on November 12, 2025 at 10:00 AM at First Baptist Church in Elmore City with Allen Carroll and Jimmy Balentine officiating. Interment will be at Elmore City Cemetery following. Services are under the direction of Wooster Funeral Home in Elmore City, Oklahoma. Visitation for Ellen will be on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM at Wooster Funeral Home in Elmore City. If you would like to send your condolences to the family you may do so at [www.woosterfuneralhomes.com](http://www.woosterfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Elmore City Cemetery

Elmore City, Ok

# Previous Events

## Public Visitation

NOV 11. 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home and Cremation Services (Elmore City)

105 S. Main

Elmore City, OK 73433

(405) 238-7574

woosterfuneralhome@sbcglobal.net

## Funeral Service

NOV 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

Elmore City First Baptist Church

107 S. Texas

Elmore City, OK

# Tribute Wall

SJ

“ *Stacey Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ellen Kennedy*



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**Stacey Johnson** - November 11, 2025 at 08:55 PM

KH

“ *Every time I saw Ellen, she grabbed me up and hugged me like I was one of her own kids. Then we gossiped about how our families were doing until our husbands were ready to leave us there. Like I told Clyda, we'll all miss her so much but I know she was happy to be with LeRay again. Love to all of y'all.*



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**Kristi Hawks** - November 11, 2025 at 06:11 PM

DC

“ *In Memory of Ellen Kennedy*  
*I was in the first grade at Elmore City with Ellen. I don't really remember her in the first grade however I do remember that big house on the hill east of Elmore City. That was the McNeil house. It was the only house out there in 1946 and in later years. When Ellen started her hair styling business, my Mother would see Ellen on occasion. I recall taking Mother to Ellen in the early 2000s. After Ellen finished with my Mother's hair, Ellen said, "DeWayne, I have always wanted to give you a haircut." So, I got in the chair and Ellen cut my hair. I did not see Ellen and LeRay often in the last twenty or so years. I will have great memories of them.*

*With My Love,*  
*DeWayne Colwell*

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**DeWayne Colwell** - November 11, 2025 at 12:16 PM

SM

“ *David so sorry for your loss. Will be praying for you and your family*

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**Sherry Miller** - November 11, 2025 at 10:13 AM

TD

“ *I remember going with my Mamaw to Ellen's many times to get her hair done. Ellen always had a smile.*

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**Tonia Dodd** - November 10, 2025 at 08:57 PM

NI

“ I was privileged to stand beside Ellen as her matron of honor as she and LeRay exchanged vows. My husband Raymond was honored to stand by LeRay as we saw them pledge their love . Through the years we watched their love grow and knew we could depend on them if ever we needed anything. Ellen was truly a woman of faith and worth her weight in rubies. I know there has already been a Satterwhite gathering by those who has gone before her. She was truly a friend.

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**Norma Ivey** - November 10, 2025 at 08:50 PM